

# The Mint Master

## Utah Numismatic Society

### au November Contents g

Continental Currency	2-5
Ultra Grade Franklin	7
College Currency	8-11
Coin Quiz	14
Book Review	15
Editors Message	18
Token Supplement	19
Prizes	23
Young Numismatists	26-28

### November's Agenda

- ♦ Greetings  
Larry Nielsen
- ♦ Mini Exhibit  
Bruce Griggs
- ♦ New & Views  
Kelly Finnegan
- ♦ Coin Quiz  
Larry Kimura
- ♦ Refreshments  
James & Michael Strasser

### Presidents Message

Well folks, the year is just about gone. It has been a busy year for our club. Last months meeting had Dave Larsen give us tips on ways to create a winning exhibit at our UNS show or any coin show. I want to thank him for sharing his expertise with us. We had just three exhibits at our recent show so start planning now for our January coin show as we hope to have several more exhibits.

As for our past show I also want to thank Bob and Ralph who as always put together an outstanding event. I was told that Bob spent a lot of extra time getting all our tables sold and we certainly had a great mix of dealers. Both Bob and Ralph give it their all, and have for many years, when it comes to putting together a great show no one does a better job. A big thanks to both of them.

Novembers meeting will be busy with 'Election Night' and 'Show & Tell.' Everyone, please bring anything

November 2018

Volume 65, Issue 11



you would like to share with our members and tell them about your collecting habits. Also, be thinking of who you would like to nominate for club positions for the next two years.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there will be a special announcement about Decembers Christmas Dinner & Party.

Larry Nielsen  
UNS President

**MEETING BEGINS AT 7PM  
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13th**

**SPECIAL NOTE: Board meeting will commence at 8:30 immediately following our club**

**ELECTION**  
**2018**

# Continental Currency Dollar

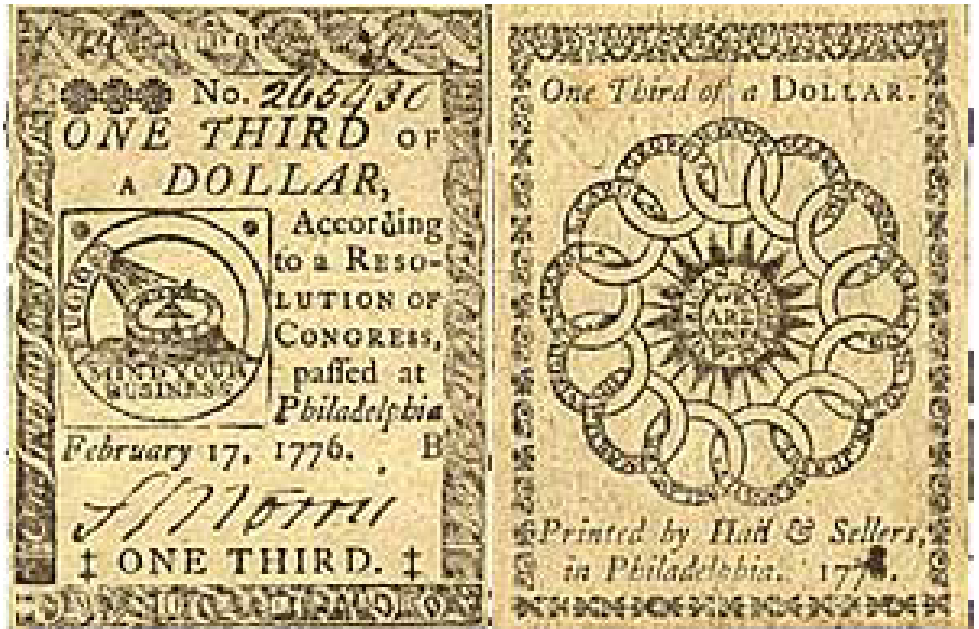
Now a Medal & Not a Coin

Doug Nyholm



There has been a significant amount of new information recently published regarding the 1776 Continental Dollars. Two major articles appeared in the Numismatist this year beginning with the January issue and another appearing in the July issue. These articles bring to light some startling new information regarding these classic coins associated with colonial America. These, so-to-speak, dollar coins have been very popular with historians and collectors for almost two hundred years. The mottos and legends appearing on them were iconic with early America and reportedly the brainchild of Benjamin Franklin. The obverse depicts the coins as "Continental Currency" with the sundial and motto "Mind Your Business" present. "Fugio" is also shown which translated indicates "Time Fly's" and finally the term "EG Fecit." This term is one of the keys to the new information and translated its meaning is simply EG made it or created the coin. The reverse contains 13 interlinking rings containing the names of the 13 original colonies. The circle in the center design shows "American Congress" and the phrase "We Are One." What more, in regard to this coin, could be more American.

The exact origin of the coins has been somewhat clouded in mystery but accepted as being authorized by the Continental Congress in 1776. It was long suspected that it was meant to be a circulating replacement for the discontinuance of the paper Continental Congress notes of one dollar in value between 1775 to 1779. These paper notes were issued in several other denominations including \$1/6, \$1/3, \$1/2, and \$2/3. As stated for a period, the \$1 denomination was discontinued which led to the supposition that this pewter dollar was intended as a metal replacement. One significant problem with this thought was that there was no record of its authorization or creation included in any of the papers of the Continental Congress. These journals contain virtually everything that the Continental Congress did, and they encompass over several feet of



bookshelf space with the volumes of the recorded history. Historically it seems unfeasible that something as significant as a circulating dollar coin would be completely absent. Several historians have brought forth the idea that this documentation had intentionally omitted this information. Theory's range from legal reasons to others noting the still strong ties to England and possible repercussions, but none are based on any facts. Many times, history or incorrect historical information, if repeated enough times can become fact. This even occurs in today's news reports. The other significant item which seemingly has been overlooked from the beginning is the reported circulation of these coins for currency. There are four known examples struck in silver, one in brass, but the majority were struck in pewter. In a time when hard money consisted only of gold



or silver would the American public accept a pewter coin for trade as a dollar? There were of course pewter coins in circulation at the time but their existence was reported by the newspapers at the time warning the public to beware of them. They were all considered counterfeits and most of them were Spanish milled dollars.

Additionally, at the time, the Continental Currency paper notes circulated widely in many different denominations. Eric Newman theorized that this dollar was a replacement for the lapse in the printing of the equally valued Continental paper dollar which occurred from 1775-1779. The other denominations were still being printed but the gap for the \$1 denomination would have required over one million-dollar coins to have been minted. At this time congress printed over 600,000 of each of the fractional denominations which could easily have been combined to make an even dollar. It is hard to believe that one million Continental Dollars were ever struck for circulation, especially in metal (pewter) which would not have been accepted by virtually anyone in commerce. Also, only about 300 are known to exist today.

The final assumed fact, which has now been found to be in error, is the “EG Fecit” term on the coin. Who was E.G.? This has baffled numismatists for over 100 years. Initially hypothesized anonymously it was the initials of Ephraim Getz. Then later suggested by Eric Newman to be Elbridge Gerry and finally a proposal, also by Newman, that it was the initials of Elisha Galludet. The first, Getz, after research was found to be someone who didn’t exist. The second, Gerry, was at least a member of the Continental Congress, and the last, Elisha Galludet, was a known engraver who resided in New York at the time and did some plate engraving for currency but had no experience with dies. The huge flaw with Galludet’s name was that he does not appear in any of the 14,000 pages of the Continental Congress records! Every aspect for those involved in currency engraving, printing and even transportation of currency are documented. Not one word regarding Gallaudet or furthermore nothing about the Continental Dollar is present. This is another instance of misreporting and constant repetition turning fiction into fact over the decades. Correct research indicates that what we do know now is that Gallaudet did not create the Continental Dollar.



Lastly, when were these Continental Dollars created? The famous collector Matthew Stickney who began collecting in 1823 did not until a full decade later during a trip to England acquire one of these dollars. The evidence from this research indicated that they were most likely struck in England. Further research indicates that they were struck simply as souvenirs or medals of which later found their way to America.



Much more information can be found in the two articles which appeared in the Numismatist earlier this year, also some information is in the e-sylum and most recently in the Stacks auction catalog offering the Archangel Collection of colonial coins on October 26<sup>th</sup> of 2018. This collection has three of the pewter dollars offered. It will be interesting to see how or for what they auction for. No matter what, it can now be told that these Continental Dollars are not of American origin and did not, or were never intended for circulation.#

**The auction results are in for the three Continental Dollars that sold on Oct. 26th. It seems that the current downgrading from a US coin to a European Medal hasn't hurt their value.**

**Lot #7137 MS-62+ PCGS / Newman 1-C / Currency/ Pewter**

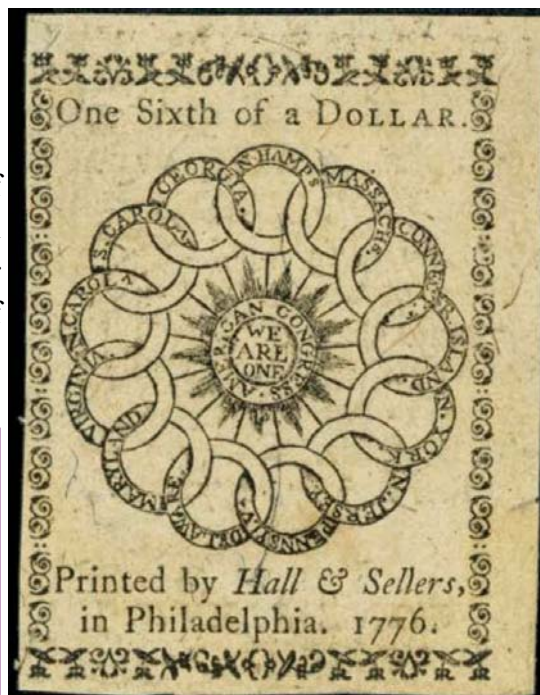
**Sold for \$90,000**

**Lot #7138 MS-62+ PCGS / Newman 2-C / Currency / Pewter**

**Sold for \$57,600**

**Lot #7139 AU-58+ PCGS / Newman 3-D / EG Fecit / Pewter**

**Sold for \$45,600**



**Below is an enlargement of the designers initials "EG."**

**It is now presently unknown who the designer actually is.**

**At right is an example of a 1/6th dollar currency note that circulated in 1776.**





# U.S. COINS SIGNATURE® AUCTION

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Selections from The Eric P. Newman Collection, Part XI

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Musante GW-31(B), Lettered Edge, XF Details  
Only Five Known, Two in Museums



1792 Getz Silver Half Dollar  
Plain Edge, Musante GW-22, XF45  
Only 22 Known of all Variants



Fairbanks Infallible Scale  
In its Original Box  
Excellent Condition



(Circa-1863) Confederation Mule, MS62 NGC  
Rare Bolen Copy in Silver  
Musante-JAB-M-1, R.8



(1781) Libertas Americana Medal  
Called the Greatest American Medal  
Betts-615, MS64 Brown



Troemner Gold Coin Scale  
Presented to Henry H. Fowler  
From the U.S. Customs Service



Ell's English Sovereign Changer  
Ingenious Circa 1905  
Mechanical Device



Circa 1920s St. Louis  
Cash Register  
Spectacular Brass Cover



Eric P. Newman's 1967  
Assay Commission Medal  
With his Certificate and  
Correspondence File



Items being sold are from the extensive collection of Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society (a Missouri not-for-profit corporation) and have been assembled over a period of 90 years. Proceeds of the sale of all items will be used exclusively for supplementing the Society's scholarly research efforts and for the benefit of other not-for-profit institutions selected by Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society for public purposes.

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# ULTRA-GRADE COINS UPDATE

## Douglas Nyholm

What words can describe, or explain, the recent auction sale of a 1958 MS-67+ FBL Franklin!

\$129,000.00!



This 1958 Franklin half dollar graded MS-67+ full bell lines by PCGS sold for \$129,500 at Legend Rare Coin Auctions' Regency 28 sale in Las Vegas. The date is common, but the quality and color are extraordinary.

***Original images courtesy of Legend Auctions.***

A ridiculously toned 1958 Franklin half dollar that is among the finest known of the entire type brought the house down when it sold for an incredible \$129,500 at Legend Rare Coin Auctions' Sept. 26 to 27 Regency Auction 28 in Las Vegas.

Legend wrote, "We unhesitatingly pronounce this the BEST and wildest 1958 Frankie in existence! EVERYTHING about this coin is mind boggling! EVERYTHING!" before calling it "1000% PERFECT." Both sides showcased deep color, especially the obverse with its almost cloisonné appearance, featuring jewel tones that verged on neon in their intensity.

The offered coin is one of just two 1958 Franklin half dollars graded Mint State 67+ by Professional Coin Grading Service and it had a green Certified Acceptance Corp. sticker, with no finer examples known. Indeed, within the entire Franklin half dollar series PCGS has graded no finer representatives.

Legend estimated it at \$15,000 to \$17,500, citing the PCGS Collector's Universe price of \$17,000, but warned bidders, "We can easily see this coin blowing past that long before the sale even starts," and saying that it could go for "moon money." It did. Many collectors never expected to see a Franklin half dollar soar past six-figures.

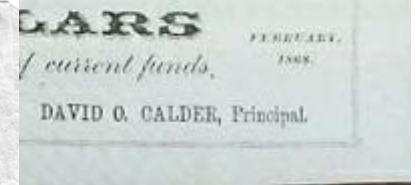
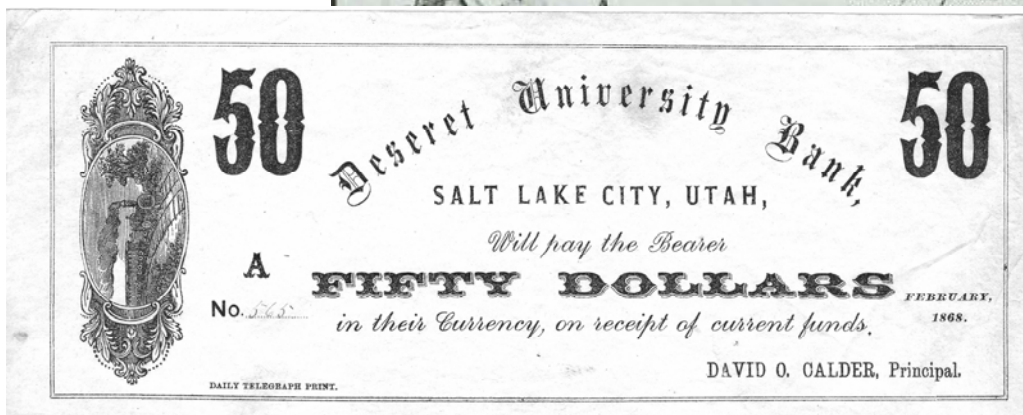
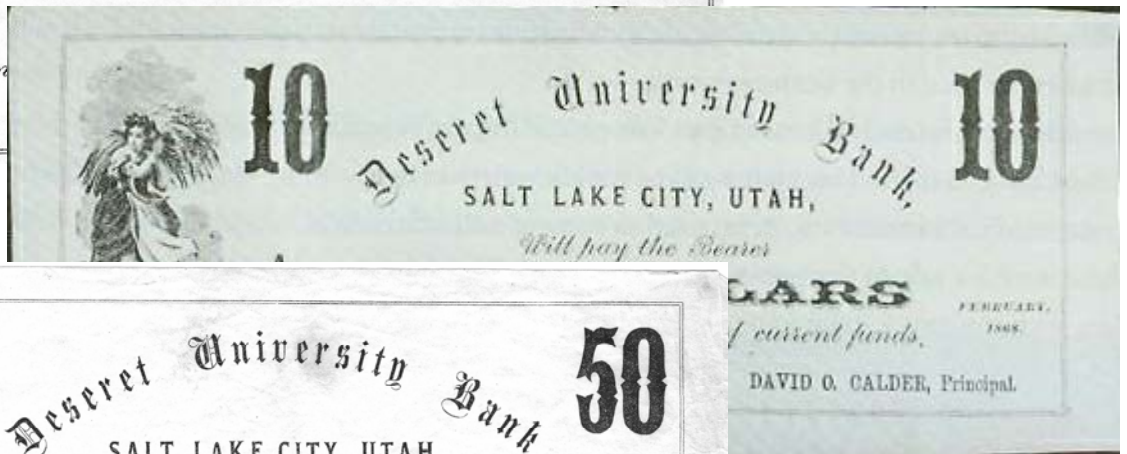
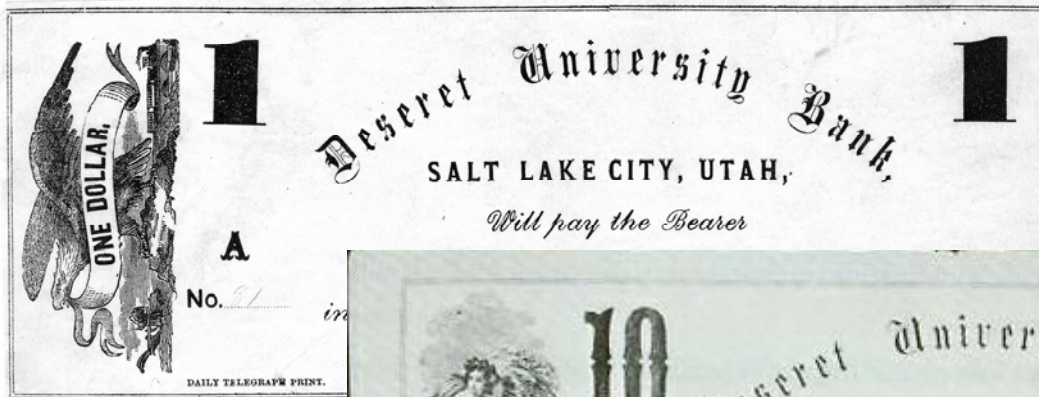


# DESERET UNIVERSITY BANK & COLLEGE CURRENCY

Doug Nyholm

Some of the more obscure Mormon related currency are those from the Deseret University Bank. I recently acquired a book which was published a few years ago entitled “College Currency” which was largely based on the collecting habits of Herb & Marth Schingoethe. Many colleges and Universities have printed simulated currency for use in their financial training departments. Obviously, this was cheaper and had no chance

of fraud or theft for use with their students. Essentially it was ‘play money’ for the school. There is a chapter in my “Mormon Currency” book about the Deseret Uni-



Shown above is a full set of the early type notes from the Deseret Univ.

appointed as Chancellor in 1867. The classes were organized to simulate actual businesses which was the reason for the creation of this scrip. Any actual banking transactions were done with regular U.S. Currency.

The first printing, or first note, which is probably unique is a simple 5c small size scrip type bill. Following came a second issue or printing where the bills were similar in size to the large size currency of the period. They were quite plain and had the printed name of David O. Calder. Denominations known are \$1, \$10, and

versity Bank and the notes which have survived.

The notes utilized at the Deseret bank were signed or printed with the name of David O. Calder who was

\$50 which are pictured here. They are all dated Feb. 1868. The final and third issue were notes issued also in the 1860's but they are much more ornate than the earlier set. There were two additional denominations added which were a \$2 and a \$5 note. Most of these are known as remainders with a place for a signature and also the date indicated as 186\_. There is a \$50 and a \$1 which were hand signed by Calder.

These Deseret University notes are all quite scarce but do occasionally enter the market. They can easily surpass \$1000 each but the collector base for them is much smaller than other Mormon currency items.

As noted in the Schingoethe book there are two other issuers of this so-called College Currency which appear to have appeared much later, possible in the 1890's.

- L.D.S. Business College / Merchants Bank
- Mill Creek Commercial Bank

I have never encountered either and shown here are poor images of examples from the L.D.S. Business College as they appeared in the College Currency book. They appear to be simple stampings of the Business College name applied to a plain non-titled "Budget System" scrip. They are included here for completeness of Utah based applications for this purpose.

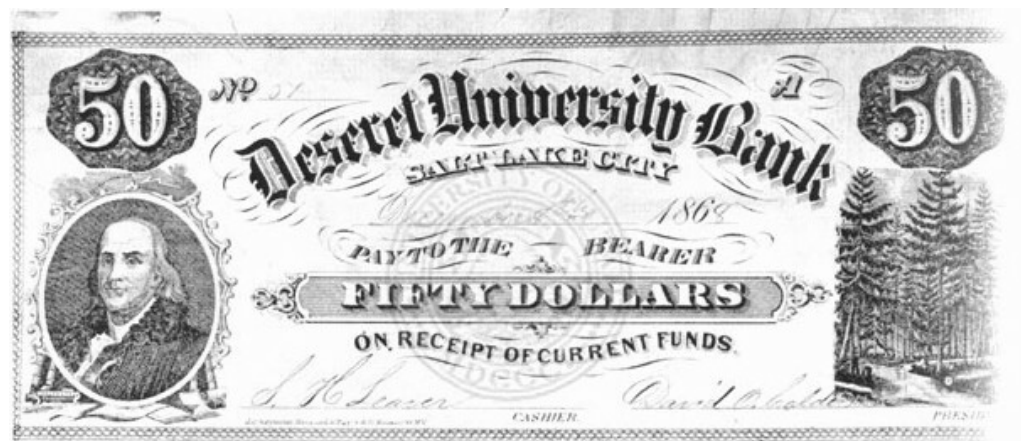
Shown here is an unstamped example of one of the generic scrips. If anyone has or have seen a note which bears the Utah stamps I would very much like to see it or obtain an image.



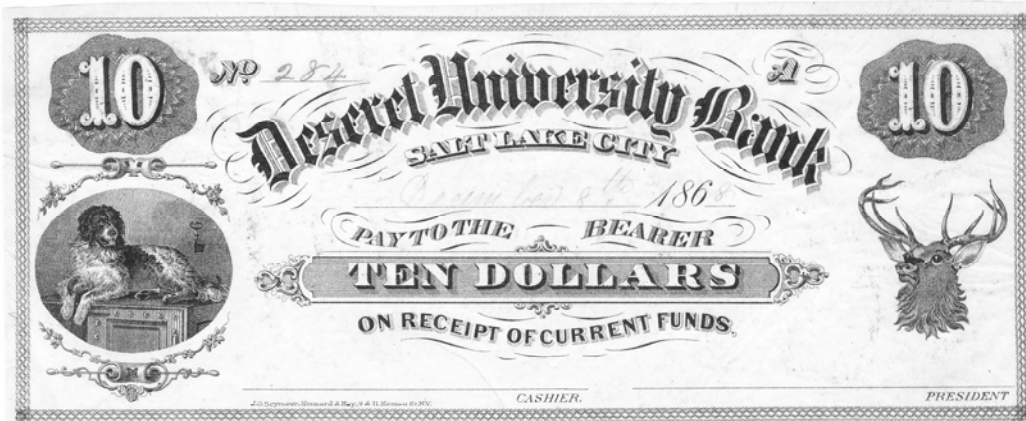
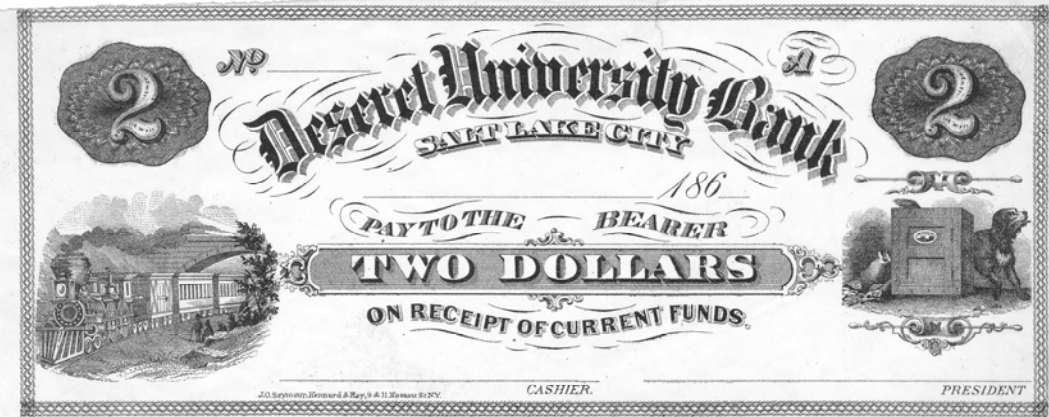
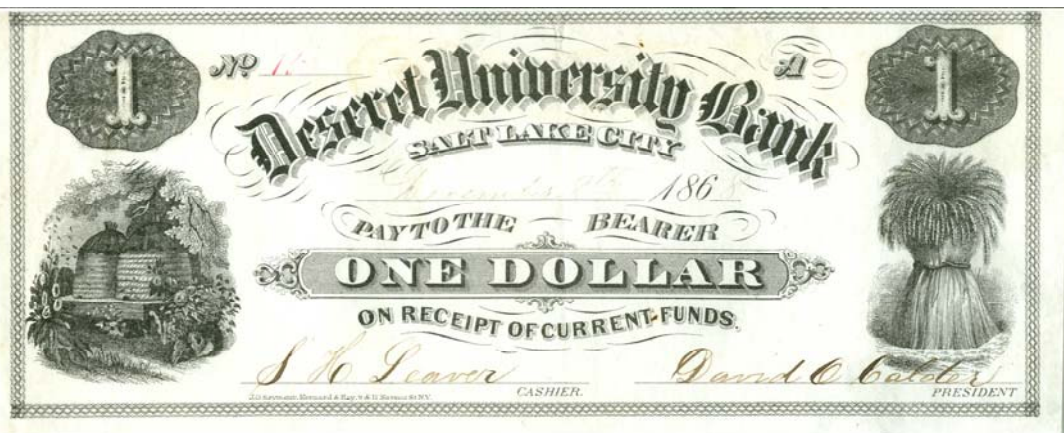
At left is a possible unique very early issue 5 cent scrip note from the Deseret University Bank.

Below and to the right is a complete denominational set of the final issuance of notes. Note that the \$1 and \$50 are signed while the others are apparent remainders.

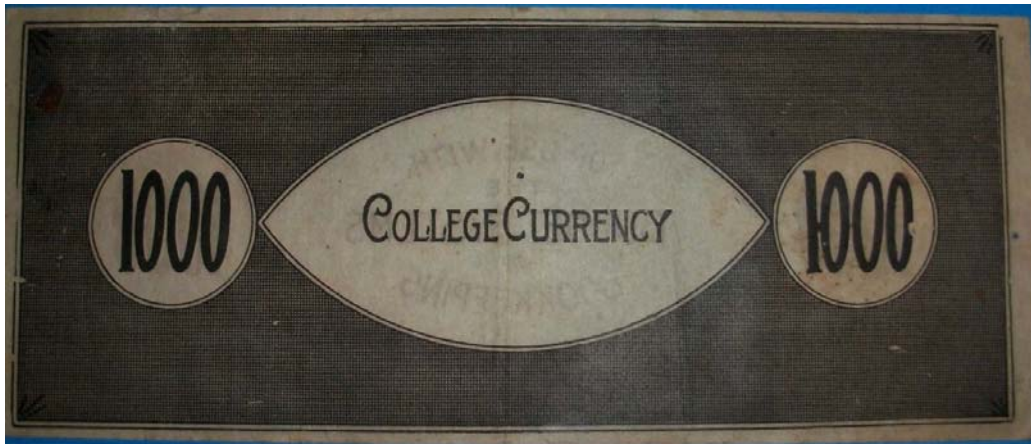
These notes were not legal tender outside of the university and were likely used only for training purposes.







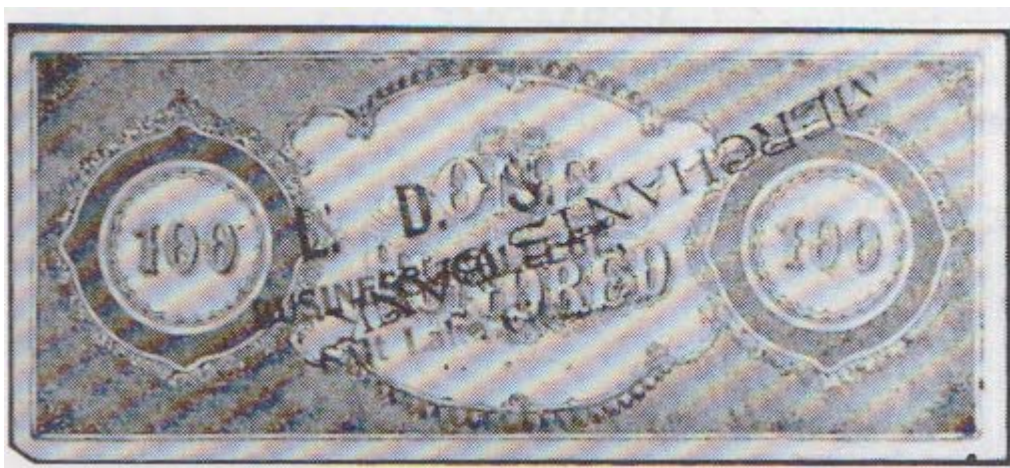
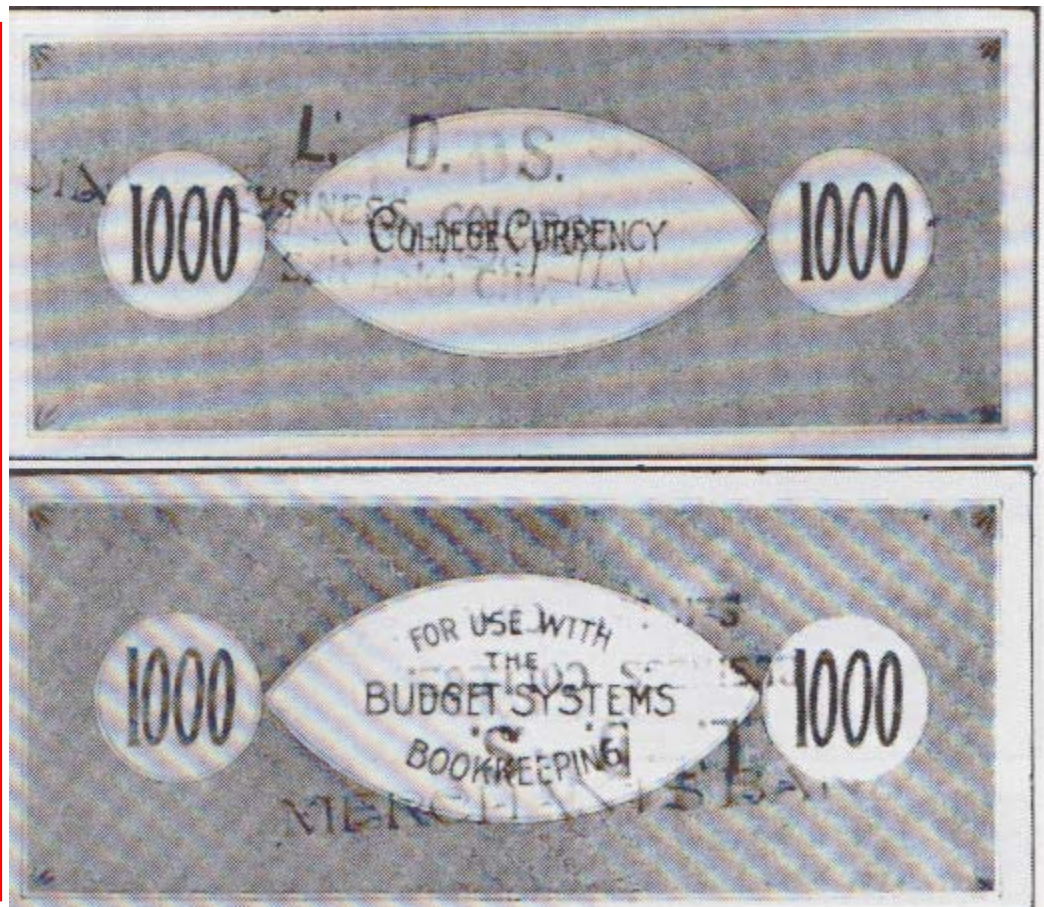




Above is a generic and unused note which as shown below was over-stamped with "LDS Business College."

This generic scrip was known to have been used by multiple colleges and universities.

These images were taken from the Schingoethe book and have not been seen by myself anywhere. Presumably most were destroyed. Their use was most likely during 1890-1900 time period.





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# Coin Quiz

## First & Last



1. What was the last year the Kennedy Half was minted for circulation?  
A) 2000                                      B) 2001  
C) 2002                                      D) 2004
2. What was the last year Newfoundland minted circulating coinage?  
A) 1936                                      B) 1947  
C) 1949                                      D) 1952
3. What was the first year for a circulating Canadian Silver Dollar?  
A) 1911                                      B) 1935  
C) 1936                                      D) 1939
4. What was the last year that Canada minted a circulating one cent coin?  
A) 2004                                      B) 2010  
C) 2012                                      D) 2013
5. When was the last year the U.S. minted a circulating coin with two designs?

This is too easy to be a multiple choice, but the answer may trick you.

Take your guess then check the last page for the answer.

# BOOK REVIEW

## Saint-Gaudens Double Eagles

By Roger Burdette

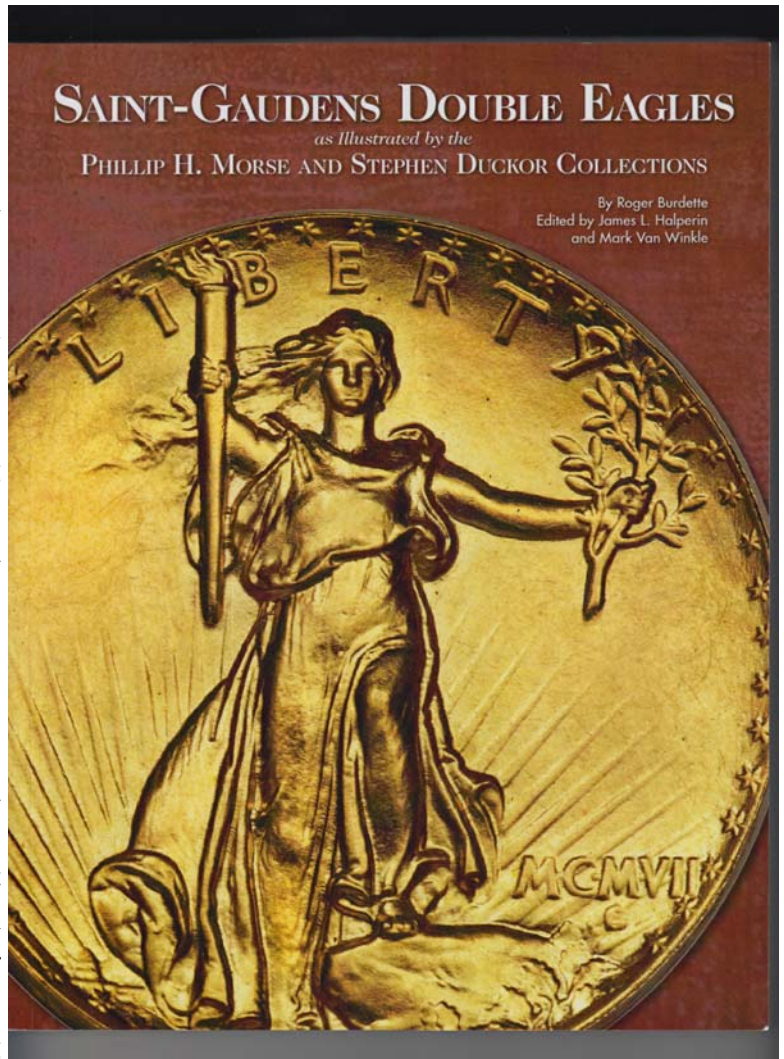
I recently received this new book published by Ivy Press and Heritage Galleries. This book is written by Roger Burdette and edited by James Halpern and Mark Van Winkle. Not too many people know more about coins than Burdette. Secondly, James Halpern and Mark Van Winkle have probably handled more coins including Saints than almost anyone alive. Finally, the book is illustrated by the Phillip H. Morse and Steven Duckor collections, both of which contained some of the finest examples ever sold.

With that being said all you need to do now is call Heritage and order your copy, you will definitely not be disappointed. However, I should say a few things regarding the book. Of course, Saint-Gaudens Double Eagles are if not the most beautiful coin ever designed then definitely in the top few of a very short list. Every collector should have at least one in his collection to admire. The history of these coins is fascinating and historic. Beginning with the very first Ultra High Relief in 1907 to the last, the 1933 issue.

This book is published soft cover like Heritage's auction catalogs containing 648 pages packed with information and history. Also, some of the most beautiful images of the finest known examples grace its pages.

Mintages, surviving population, deliveries by each mint and the history of many of them which are extreme rarities today are discussed. There are over 100 pages devoted to their history and general coinage along with each date, mint, and even proofs being covered with up to 10 pages about each. Some of the rarities have many more pages. If there is anything you ever wanted to know about this series or individual Saints, it can be found in this book.

The book can be acquired directly from Heritage for \$95 and is well worth the price.





29th Annual



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Saturday, January 26, 2019

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## HOURS

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Admission: \$3.00      Family: \$5.00



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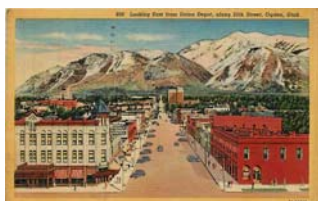


# Got Stamps?



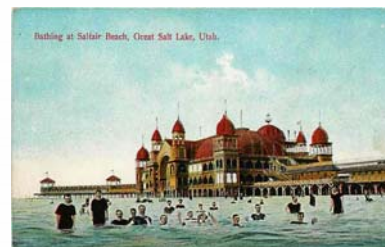
## Old letters – Old postcards?

Do you have an old collection or accumulation of stuff that you don't know what to do with? ***I can help!*** Call me to discuss what items you have. Whether you just want to know what the value is or if you want to sell them. We can discuss what options you have to dispose of your items or I can give you a free verbal appraisal based on the current market value. Either way you will know what you have and can then make intelligent decisions as to what to do with it. Give me a call. It will be worth your time.



**Dave Blackhurst**

801-580-9534



## Editors Message

**Doug Nyholm**

### UNS ELECTION

We will be holding our bi-annual election for our club officers to serve for the next two years. Our club has many very talented and capable individuals of serving and holding office and I not only want to urge our membership to carefully think and make sure that your in attendance to place your vote but it is also very important that I would like to see some new faces throw their hat into the ring and take that special opportunity to give back to our club as it has benefited you. It can be very satisfying to volunteer and serve. The Utah Numismatic Society has been around for 67 years since its founding in 1951 and many amateur and professional numismatists have had their names associated with our history. If you are nominated think hard before you decline and say 'Yes' to become a permanent part of the UNS. Most of us cannot be present at 100% of the monthly meetings but don't let that dissuade you. We all have outside interests and only a dozen or so member are here each and every week. So, I urge all of you to both attend and vote and take the opportunity to serve the UNS and its members next year. See you all at the meeting.



In other news our Christmas Dinner and Prizes to be given is fast approaching. The UNS is subsidizing the cost significantly so no one should have any excuses for not attending our event and having a great dinner and ever greater comradery with fellow members. \$12 is definitely worth the price of admission considering the literal thousands of dollars in prizes to be given out. Because of the subsidy please remember to bring funds to pay for the dinner at this months meeting.



Your Editor Doug Nyholm





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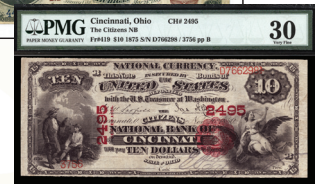
**The Carlson Chambliss Collection:**



**The Joel Anderson Collection  
of the #1 Registry Set of  
Treasury Notes of the  
War of 1812:**



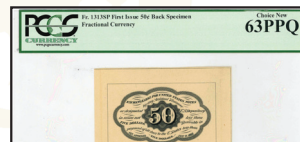
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Kagins Mint Master Ad NMS Cons 10-28-18



**Bob Campbell has just released Supplement #1 to his award winning book “Utah Trade Tokens” which was published in 2013. They are available directly from Bob and for sale at his shop. Cover price is \$19.95.**





You never know what your going to see at a coin show. The above pictured bundle of German Notes appeared at Kelly Finnegan's table. He always seems to acquire unusual items. These notes, although not rare by themselves it is certainly a rare find to see these notes still banded by the issuing bank with consecutive numbers as issued in Berlin. 20 of the 100,000 Mark bills totaling 2,000,000 Marks. In speaking to Kelly and several show attendees none have ever seen such a bundle.

**RALPH R. MULLER**

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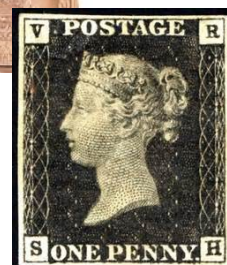
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**SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84117**

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## PRIZES FOR NOVEMBER

**Promptness Prize:** 1959 D BU Quarter

**Junior Prize:** Lewis and Clark nickel set

**Member Prize:** 1967 Canadian Confederation silver \$

**The Buy of the month is: TBA**

- 1- State quarter set
- 2- 20-dollar Confederate note
- 3- 1982 S Slab 5 cent PR69DCAM
- 4- 1896 Morgan \$ (Utah statehood year)
- 5- 1982 S Slab 10 cent PR69DCAM
- 6- 1923 Peace \$
- 7- 1990 Silver Eagle \$ (1 oz.)
- 8- 1925 Peace \$
- 9- 1954 Franklin ½ \$
- 10- 1963 Franklin ½ \$
- 11- 1938 D Buffalo nickel BU
- 12- 1952 Franklin ½ \$
- 13- 1982 S Pf. Washington ½ \$
- 14- 1865 2 cent piece U.S.



# UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 2018 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

## November

Elections

Show & Tell

## December

UNS Christmas

Dinner



## UNS CHRISTMAS DINNER/ PARTY ANNOUNCEMENT

As a preliminary announcement, our annual Christmas party will be on December 11th at 6 PM sharp.

It will be held in the large room here at the center. We will try and eat about 6:15 after everyone arrived and gets seated. Please check in quickly to get your meal tickets and prize coupons upon arrival.

We are planning to have Chicken Cordon Bleu, potatoes, tossed salad, corn, rolls & butter with also a desert and drink.

Cost this year will be \$12.00 per person. The club will subsidize the difference directly to the caterer to make it more affordable for everyone. By doing this it is very important that we get an accurate count of who will be attending, so please, notify us at this month's meeting and if at all possible please bring your money to pay for your dinner and those in your party who will be attending.

We are planning a great evening with lots of fantastic prizes.





## 2018 OFFICERS & BOARD

### OFFICERS

President	Larry Nielsen	801-870-2344
Vice President	Robie Cagle	801-869-0605
Treasurer	Tom Davis	801-487-8691
Secretary	Cindy Cagle	801-869-0584
Medals Chair.	Don Swain	801-652-0124
Curator	Bruce Griggs	801-703-4081
Newsletter	Doug Nyholm	801-918-9522
Bourse Chair	Bob Campbell	801-467-8636



### BOARD MEMBERS

Collin Cagle	801-793-7769
Chris Larsen	801-300-9763
Phil Clark	801-523-9199
Robie Cagle	801-869-0605

(Mint Master Assistant Editor)

LaVar Burton	801-255-1629
Mike Rek	916-806-0923
Eliza Finnegan	Jr. Member



**Hospitality** Richard Blaylock & Lamar Kemp

**THE TERM “UNCIRCULATED” HAS AT LEAST THREE DEFINITIONS AND ALL UNCIRCULATED COINS ARE NOT CREATED EQUALLY, ESPECIALLY IN MINT SETS, AND DIFFERENCES SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AND NOTED.**

When official U.S. Mint Sets were first introduced in 1947, the intent was to provide collectors and the numismatic community with a simple and efficient way to obtain examples of each of the coins issued for circulation in a specific year. Basically, the coins used to assemble these sets were the circulation or business strike coins in uncirculated mint state condition which were placed in some type of protective packaging and sold at a marked up price above face value. The mint set program grew in popularity and sets sold grew from 5,000 in its first year to almost 1,000, 000 a year by 2004. The coins included in these sets for almost 60 years exemplify the traditionally accepted definitions of uncirculated in so far as they were produced as circulation or business strikes and intended to be used in daily commerce, but were removed following completion of the minting processes for inclusion in mint sets. Mint set inclusion guaranteed uncirculated status and should result in a minimum grade of MS 60 for a circulation/business strike even with some imperfections.



**1958 MINT SET**



**1959 MINT SET**

Before moving on to 2005 and beyond as it relates to U.S. Uncirculated Mint Sets, it is worth a quick look back at the 1965-67 timeframe, when Special Mint Sets (SMS) replaced both Proof Sets and Mint Sets. In 1964, the U.S. Mint announced that a shortage of circulating, wrongfully blamed in part on the numismatic community, made it necessary to cease production of both Proof Sets and Mint Sets for 1965. The halt actually lasted until 1967 and during that three year period, we saw what was a precursor to a new definition of “Uncirculated” and its direct relationship with the minting process. Basically, the production of the SMS only saw changes to die preparation in so far as they were polished and in some cases over polished to the point of removing detail and final packaging. The die polishing achieved different results in each of the years with coins dated 1965 displaying semi-brilliant or satiny surfaces and those dated 1966 or 1967 displaying very brilliant to proof-like finishes. All 1965 coins were actually minted in 1966 and were packaged in the cellophane packets while the 1966 and 67 coins were packaged in sonically sealed hard plastic cases. Circulation minting process using specially polished dies.



**1966 SPECIAL MINT SET**



In 2005, the Mint introduced a satin or frosted finish on the coins in the Uncirculated Mint Sets in an attempt to make Mint Set coins easier to distinguish from other similar numismatic coins available from the Mint. The less reflective satin or frosted finish was achieved by sandblasting the blanks or planchets before die striking. This minting process continued until 2010 when it was abandoned because the frosted finish made imperfections such as contact marks, scrapes, rub marks, etc. more noticeable. Collectors, numismatists, and the grading services were all happy initially with the new finish which made higher grading Mint set coins easier to identify and differentiate from lower quality straight circulation strike coins. This was an important affirmation by the Mint that for some time, mint set coins had been produced using a special Uncirculated minting process to make higher quality coins that weren't being correctly identified or classified. Exactly when the Mint employed the Uncirculated minting process is very difficult to determine and in researching over 20 years of Mint press releases, starting in 1996, I only found one reference concerning the special minting process being used for the soon to be released, 2007 mint set. The special minting process referred to in the release involves the addition of processes to the basic coining process used to produce circulation/business coinage. The Mint describes it under "Uncirculated" in both its glossary and frequently asked questions areas basically as follows: *Similar to the circulation coining process with quality enhancements such as special presses, specially burnished planchets, planchets are hand-loaded into presses, higher coining force during strike, early strikes from dies, special cleaning after stamping, and special packaging. The finished coins exhibit sharp, intricately detailed images and a brilliant finish.* The overall brilliant finish returned in 2011 and continues today unless a special finish is required by law or Mint direction.

Given the extent of these process enhancements and their effect on the finished coins, should Uncirculated Mint Sets produced with enhanced processes be in a separate category like the Special Mint Sets of the 1965-67 timeframe? What about the individual coins removed from these sets for grading and encapsulation? Should they be identified as Mint Set removals in some way-maybe a notation like 'mint set coin'? Should anybody expect an Uncirculated Mint Set coin graded MS-68 to have the same dollar value as a circulation strike of the same type and year graded MS-68? Why or why not?

I'm not sure there is a single right answer to any of these questions, but in researching information for this article I am convinced there is work for those of us in the numismatic community to take care of. The U.S. Mint needs to become more forthright and forthcoming, transparent, in its news releases. It also needs to review, update and consolidate educational information contained in its glossary and frequently asked questions area. There should never be conflicting, confusing, or incomplete information about the same subject in different areas. The subject of Uncirculated as it relates to the coining process, any additional enhancement processes, and the specific coins and mint sets affected would be a good starting point. When and what enhanced processes were added and to what coins or sets they were added would be very helpful and may help remove the somewhat complacent attitude adopted by the numismatic community.

The information contained in the Redbook and Bluebook concerning Mint Sets is dated and needs to be updated to address the evolution since the return to the brilliant finish in 2011. As the key reference for everyone interested in U.S. coinage, updated information concerning the Uncirculated Mint Sets may help eliminate the apparent complacency concerning mint sets and their place and treatment in the numismatic endeavor as well as decrease the downward trend in demand and therefore mintage experienced since 2005.

The grading services have a role to play in this Mint Set area by first of all coming up with a simple and reasonably priced process that allows grading and encapsulation of mint set coins on an individual coin or whole set basis. The process should include some capability to indicate on the label that the coin is from a mint set. Without the coin still in the original sealed government packaging, it may be problematic to certify that an individual coin is actually from a mint set. A little brainstorming by the experts should result in a workable solution that is sorely needed. A quick review of the submission procedures of the big three grading services suggests existing processes do not encourage or favor submission of mint sets or their individual coins.

Finally, as a numismatic community and the primary customers for and consumers of mint set products, it is our duty to tell the Mint honestly what we like and don't like about its products and suggest ways to make them better when possible. It is also our responsibility to help and educate young and new numismatists understand the history, role, and benefits that mint sets can and often do provide in satisfying our numismatic pursuits. In no way, am I encouraging blind promotion or marketing of the Mint or its products but rather assistance so the new numismatist can make the best and most success-oriented decisions for themselves. We also have a responsibility to keep the influential people in the numismatic community informed and prepared to help us make changes to improve the overall numismatic environment for all people involved. Your voice or mine alone will probably never be heard. If however, we can get the support of Q. David Bowers, Coin World leadership, some of the ANA Board members, ANACS, NGC, or PCGS leadership to assist with or champion our cause; success is more likely.



PHIL CLARK



# UNS Membership Application

**Application for membership in the “Utah Numismatic Society”**

**P.O. Box 65054, Salt Lake City, UT 84165**

Name(s) of Applicants: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL DUES

☐ \$30 Family

☐ \$20 Adult

☐ \$5 Junior / Under 18

## Where & When we meet:

Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Columbus Community Center / 2531 South 500 East, SLC, UT 84115

*By signing this application I  
acknowledge that I have never  
been convicted of a felony.*

The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 67th year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable as well as novice and beginning collectors in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled “The Mint Master” contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the ‘Counterfeit Corner,’ ‘Book Reviews,’ ‘Young Numismatists,’ as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual “Youth Night” and “Summer Picnic.”

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the Columbus Community Center, 2350 S. 500 E., Salt Lake City.



## Quiz answers

1-B 2001

2-C 1949

3-B 1935

4-C 2012

5- 2009 Lincoln Cents